

# United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mesa Verde National Park Mesa Verde, Colorado 81330

A56 (MEVE-RM&VP)

June 26th, 2007

## **BY ORDER OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Subject: FIRE RESTRICTIONS IN MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

(SW Colorado federal agency level 1 fire restrictions are in effect)

Recent hot dry breezy weather has resulted in extremely dry grass and brush throughout the park. Because of the very high fire danger, the following fire restrictions will take effect on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007: No open fires are permitted throughout Mesa Verde National Park. This includes all the residences inside the park, Morefield Campground, and the Chapin picnic area. Pressurized gas stoves and contained charcoal grills are permitted at Morefield Campground and Chapin picnic area. Smoking is only permitted inside enclosed vehicles. **Fireworks are prohibited in Mesa Verde National Park**.

This restriction shall remain in effect until such time as the fire danger in the park becomes less severe. Your cooperation in decreasing the potential for a catastrophic fire within Mesa Verde National Park is appreciated.

This prohibition is based on my authority under 16 United States Code, Section 3 and 36 Code of Federal Regulations subsections 1.5 Closures and public use limits. (a)(1).; 2.13 Fires. (a)(5)(c); 2.21 Smoking. (a); and 2.38 Explosives. (b)(c).

Larry T. Wiese Superintendent

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Dear Visitor to Mesa Verde National Park,

Effective Monday July 2, 2007 until further notice, **Mesa Verde National Park is restricting all open fires and smoking throughout the park.** 

The existing hot and dry conditions throughout the park have created a very high fire danger.

We are asking your help in protecting the visitors and staff of Mesa Verde, as well as the cultural and natural resources.

- Smoking is restricted to enclosed vehicles.
- Fireworks are always prohibited in Mesa Verde National Park.
- Open fires are prohibited throughout the park. Pressurized gas stoves and contained charcoal grills are permitted at Morefield Campground and Chapin picnic area.

If you have questions about these restrictions, the very high fire danger, or any other aspects of Mesa Verde, please talk to any Park Ranger.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Enjoy your visit to Mesa Verde National Park!

Sincerely,

Larry T. Wiese Superintendent